



**CITY OF LODI  
COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

**AGENDA TITLE:** Consider Request of Vice Mayor Johnson for a Council Sponsored Quarter-Cent Sales Tax Increase to Pay for Public Safety and/or Open Space Acquisition.

**MEETING DATE:** March 29, 2006

**PREPARED BY:** City Manager

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Take no action at this time.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** At the November 8, 2005 Shirtsleeve Meeting, Council Member Johnson requested that the Council consider sponsoring a quarter-cent sales tax increase to fund public safety and/or open space acquisition, presumably on the November 2006 election. This item is before the City Council to provide direction to staff. It is recommended that no action be taken at this time.

A November ballot initiative sponsored by the City Council would compete with the Citizens' Fire and Facilities Sales Tax Initiative already qualified for the November ballot. Although a strong argument can be made for the need for additional financial resources, (a "white paper" was presented to the Council in March), the reason and/or purpose for additional revenue has not been made absolutely clear to allow voters to make a fully informed decision. More time is needed to refine the message. A premature ballot initiative may be unsuccessful and could delay a subsequent ballot initiative.

Nevertheless, if the Council wishes to place a tax measure on the ballot for November 2006, the Council should take action in May or June. July 5<sup>th</sup> is the last regular meeting for the Council to take action to place a measure on the ballot. Attached is the Preliminary Election Calendar prepared by the City Clerks office. It is a working draft and subject to change.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The cost to place the question on the ballot is approximately \$15,000. Revenue to be realized from a ballot initiative, if successful, depends upon the type of tax in question. It is estimated that a quarter cent sales tax will generate approximately \$2.3 million annually in new revenue if passed in 2006.

  
Blair King, City Manager

Attachment

APPROVED:   
Blair King, City Manager

## PRELIMINARY ELECTION CALENDAR November 7, 2006

(City Clerk's working draft -- subject to change.)

DATE(s)	DESCRIPTION	Elections/Government Code
May 1 <i>'suggested)</i>	Suggested last day to file petitions for citizens initiative measure (to allow 30 to 60 days to verify and certify to Council)	
May 17	Council adopts election resolutions:  Calling Election Consolidate with County Candidates Statements - regulations, Arguments & Rebuttals - regulations	EC 10002/ consolidate EC 10403 / 88 days EC 13307 / cand. stmt. 88 days
May / June	Suggested time for City Council to consider placing measure on ballot and direct City Attorney to draft measure, synopsis, and ballot question	Ballot question not to exceed 75 words
Late June	Publish notice of election to include:  P 3 Council seats  >Synopsis of Measures: 1) Fire & Facilities Sales Tax Initiative 2) "Affirmation" of Low Income Discount Program  >Deadline to file arguments & rebuttals  >Direct City Attorney to write impartial analyses	
July 5 <i>'suggested)</i>	Suggested <u>last regular meeting</u> for Council to take action to place a measure on the ballot	
July 17 to August 11	Nomination Period	EC 10220/ 113" to 88" day EC 10224/ 88 day EC 13307 / format cand. stmt. EC 13309 / indigency EC 13311 / confidential GC 36503 / muni elect GC 87201 / FPPC

August 7 <i>(suggested)</i>	Last Day to file arguments with City Clerk	EC 9282   300 words EC 9283 / author names
August 7	Impartial Analyses on measures prepared by City Attorney to SJROV	EC 9280 500 word max
August 8 To August 28  <i>(suggested)</i>	10-day period for public inspection of arguments, measures, & analyses	EC 9295
August 11	DEADLINE to deliver measure (previously voted upon by Council) to SJROV	EC 9223 / print measure EC 10403 / 88 days
August 11	DEADLINE to submit names of Council Candidates to SJROV	EC 10403 / 88 days
August 12 to August 21*	Public examination period for candidates statements	EC 13313 / 10 day public review of cand. stmts.
August 16	*Extension of nomination period if incumbent has not filed on the last day of the nomination period	EC 10225 / 83 <sup>rd</sup> day EC 10407
August 16	Council can amend or withdraw measure until 83 <sup>rd</sup> day prior to election	
August 17	Randomized alphabet drawing by Secretary of State	EC 13112 (b) / 11:00 a.m. 82 <sup>nd</sup> day
August 17  <i>(suggested)</i>	Last Day to file rebuttals with City Clerk	EC 9285 / 250 words 10 days after Arg. Deadline
August 26  <i>(suggested)</i>	Publish candidates names in the random order they will appear on the ballot (Not later than 1 week before election)	EC 12110 / publish nominees GC 6060 / newspaper GC 6066 / 2x
September 11 to October 24	Write in candidates	EC 8600 EC 8601 157 <sup>th</sup> day – 14 <sup>th</sup> day EC 15351 EC 15352
October 5	1 <sup>st</sup> Pre-Election Campaign Statement	

October 9 to October 31	Absentee voter ballot applications	EC 3001 / 29 <sup>th</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> day EC 3006 / format EC 3200 / permanent
October 23	Last day to register to vote	EC 2106 / 18 yrs. EC 2107 / 15 days prior
October 26	2 <sup>nd</sup> Pre-Election Campaign Statement	
Within 24 hrs.	Late Contributions	
November 7	Election Day	EC 1000
November 8 to December 5	Canvass election returns  (28 days)	EC 10263 EC 10403.5 (d) EC 15301
December 6	Council Reorganization Meeting	LMC 2.04.070
January 31.2007	Semi-Annual Campaign Statement	